

Response to Office Action dated November 23, 2005
Application No. 10/602,622
Attorney Docket No. FSF-031381

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A photothermographic material comprising a support having disposed on one surface thereof at least one image-forming layer containing a binder, an organic silver salt, a reducing agent for reducing silver ions, an organic polyhalogen compound represented by the following general formula (H) in the range of 1×10^{-4} mol to 0.8 mol per mol of the silver halide:

General Formula (H)

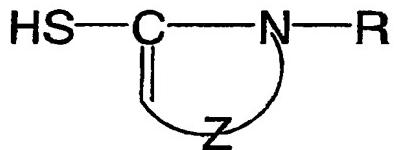


wherein, Q represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, or a heterocyclic group; Y represents a divalent linking group; n represents 0 or 1; Z₁ and Z₂ each independently represent a halogen atom; and X represents a hydrogen atom or an electron attracting group;

and a photosensitive silver halide, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a silver iodide content ranging from 10 mol% to 100 mol%, and said material is

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irradiated with a laser beam and further comprises at least one compound represented by the following general formula (1) in the range of from 1×10^{-4} mol to 5×10^{-1} mol per mol of the silver halide:



General Formula (1)

wherein Z represents a group of atoms to form a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing at least two nitrogen atoms; and

R represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group or an aryl group.

2. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1,

wherein a grain size of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 5 nm to 100 nm.

3. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1,

wherein the photosensitive silver halide contains a grain which is formed and chemically sensitized under conditions where the organic silver salt is not present.

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4. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 2,
wherein the photosensitive silver halide contains a grain which is formed and
chemically sensitized under conditions where the organic silver salt is not present.

5. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1,
wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 40 mol%
to 100 mol%.

6. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 2,
wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 40 mol%
to 100 mol%.

7. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1,
wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol%
to 100 mol%.

8. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 2,

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wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

9. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 3,
wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

10. (previously presented) A photothermographic material comprising a support including on one surface thereof at least a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for reducing silver ions and a binder, wherein the photosensitive silver halide 1) has a silver iodide content ranging from 10 mol% to 100 mol% and 2) includes metal pairs selected from metal pairs Ir-Fe, Ir-Cu, Ru-Cu, Ru-Fe, Fe-Os, Fe-Ru, Fe-Cu, Fe-Pt, Os-Cu, Os-Fe, Cu-Fe and Cu-Ru.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

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13. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein the first metal of the metal pair is distributed in a core and the second metal of the metal pair is distributed in a shell.

14. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 10, wherein an emulsion of the silver halide is chemically sensitized by at least one sensitization selected from the group consisting of chalcogen sensitization, gold sensitization and reduction sensitization.

15. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 14, wherein the chalcogen sensitization is at least one of tellurium sensitization, selenium sensitization and sulfur sensitization.

16. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 14, wherein the chalcogen sensitization is at least one of tellurium sensitization and selenium sensitization.

17. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 14,

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wherein the chalcogen sensitization is tellurium sensitization.

18. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 10,
wherein the silver iodide content of a photographic emulsion of the silver halide ranges
from 40 mol% to 100 mol%.

19. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 18,
wherein the silver iodide content of the photographic emulsion of the silver halide
ranges from 90 mol% to 100 mol%.

20. (original) The photothermographic material according to claim 10,
wherein a grain size of a grain of the silver halide ranges from 10 nm to 50 nm.